of a polypentamer, at least one compound which increases the ionic strength of the fluid, and at least one fluid loss control agent.

23. (New) A process according to claim 22, wherein the drilling fluid comprises 0.01% to 2% of xanthan gum.

24. (New) A process according to claim 22, wherein the percentage is 0 to 2%.

25. (New) A process according to claim 22, wherein the fluid loss control agent is selected from the group consisting of cellulose compounds, polyacrylamides, high molecular weight polyacrylates, succinoglycanes, native starch, native starch derivatives, and charcoal.

26. (New) A process according to claim 22, wherein the compound increasing the ionic strength of the fluid is a salt of mineral or organic acid.

27. (New) A process according to claim 26, wherein the salt is an alkali metal halide, alkaline-earth metal halide, a sulphate, carbonate, bicarbonate, silicate, phosphate, an alkali metal formate, alkaline-earth metal formate, alkali metal acetate, or an alkaline-earth metal acetate.

28. (New) A process according to claim 27, wherein the compound increasing the ionic strength of the fluid is an alkali or alkaline-earth metal chloride.

29. (New) A process according to claim 27, wherein the compound increasing the ionic strength of the fluid is a sodium silicate.

30. (New) A process according to claim 22, wherein the compound increasing the ionic strength of the fluid is present in said fluid in an amount of 5000 to 110000 parts per million.

31. (New) A process according to claim 22, wherein said fluid further comprises a thinner or dispersing agent in a quantity of 0 to 1% with respect to the total fluid weight.

32. (New) A process according to claim 31, wherein the thinner or dispersing agent is selected from the group consisting of polyphosphates, tannins, lignosulphonates, lignin derivatives, peats, lignites, polyacrylates and polynaphthalene sulphonates.

33. (New) A process according to claim 22, wherein said fluid further comprises further comprises an oxygen scavenger in an amount of 0 to 0.25% with respect to the total fluid weight.

34. (New) A process according to claim 22, wherein said fluid further comprises a weighting compound selected from the group consisting of alkaline-earth metal sulphates, carbonates, silicates, alkaline-earth metal bromides, zinc bromides, and iron oxides.

35. (New) A process according to claim 31, wherein said fluid further comprises at least one mineral colloid selected from the group consisting of attapulgite, barite and bentonite.

36. (New) A process according to claim 22, the drilling fluid further comprises water.

37. (New) A process according to claim 22, wherein the oil extraction comprises well development operations, drilling operations, work-over operations, completion operations or oilfield production.